



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Lucian Hirsch et al DOCKET NO: P00,1767  
SERIAL NO: 09/700,093 GROUP NO: 2664  
DATE FILED: November 10, 2000 EXAMINER: Not Assigned  
INVENTION: METHOD AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING  
STATE INFORMATION IN A MANAGEMENT NETWORK  
HAVING A NUMBER OF MANAGEMENT LEVELS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

According to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that a citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO 1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States Patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) and before the latter occurrence of:

- (1) three months from the filing date of a national application;
- (2) three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

**REMARKS**

The attached PTO 1449 form lists related art references for the above-identified application, the copy of which is enclosed herewith.

**EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE**

References AJ-AL and AQ were cited in the International Search Report. The relevance of reference AR was discussed in the Specification, and reference AS is provided as additional background material. All of these references are in English, so no further commentary on their teaching is required.

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The filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the present Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The above citation of prior art is not a representation that such art constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of all pertinent prior art, nor that it necessarily includes the closest or most relevant art. The aforementioned citation comprises a voluntary citation of prior art of which applicant and his attorney are presently aware and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the Examiner's own search.

Respectfully submitted,

(Reg. No. 45,877)

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 15, 2001

Attorney for Applicants